

Mark Your Elementary

Concert Calendars:

- **Bielefield**

Friday, December 18th

10 AM—all students

- **Farm Hill**

Wednesday, December 9th

10 AM—band students

Wednesday, December 16th

2 PM—all students

- **Lawrence**

Friday, December 11th

10 AM—all students

- **MacDonough**

Tuesday, December 15th

10 AM—all students

- **Moody**

Friday, December 11th

Time TBA—all students

Friday, December 18th

10 AM—band students

- **Snow**

Thursday, December 17th

10 AM—3-5 students and band
students

Wednesday, December 23rd

9:30 AM—K-2 students

- **Spencer**

Monday, December 14th

10 AM and 2 PM—all
students

Tuesday, December 15th

9:30 AM—band students

- **Wesley**

Wednesday, December 16th

10 AM—K-2 students

2 PM—3-5 students and band

Students

Middletown Notes

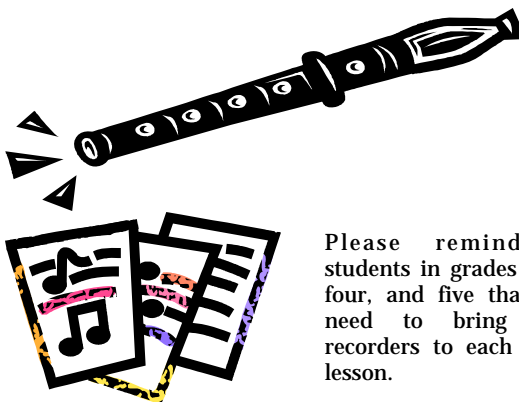
The General Elementary Music World

Kindergarten has been working on developing a proper singing voice and understanding steady beat and rhythm. To help students gain these skills, we have been playing instruments, singing songs and doing movement activities. Grade one has been working on singing pitches correctly and understanding the macro/micro beat. They are able to sing Mi Re Do songs and perform rhythmic patterns. In Grade two we have been singing songs accompanied by rhythmic instruments.

Grade three students have begun the study of the recorder. Through this instrument, they are able to gain important musical

skills and vocabulary. In Grade four, students continue the study of recorder and develop a deeper understanding of meter and notation. Grade five has also continued the study of recorder and has explored various forms in music.

We are now preparing for the December Concerts. Each elementary school will hold a concert with a winter holiday theme. Please check the school calendar for the concert dates and we hope you will be able to attend.



Please remind all students in grades three, four, and five that they need to bring their recorders to each music lesson.

The Instrumental Elementary Music World

Our fourth graders are off to a great start in beginning band. They already know their first five notes, and are working on whole, half, quarter notes and rests. The children are starting to prepare for the December performances and are very excited to show what they have learned. The fourth graders first performance will consist of songs from

their lesson book. We look forward to seeing you there.

Music Note: Students should be practicing daily for success!

Fifth grade band students are playing more advanced music this year. Parents should notice a difference from last year! The fifth grade bands have

been working on their concert B-flat scale, new notes and new songs. Students have also been preparing for the upcoming December performances and are looking forward to playing. See you in December!

Music Note: Practice, practice, practice!

Meet the Elementary Music Faculty!

Bielefield

Amy Chrzanowski—General Music
Steve D’Amato—Instrumental Music

Farm Hill

Liza Raboin—General Music
Hallie Sorensen—General Music
Cindy Peterson— Instrumental Music

Lawrence

Farah DeAngelis—General Music
Charlotte Soja—General Music

Dave Daddario—Instrumental Music

MacDonough

Farah DeAngelis—General Music
Steve D’Amato— Instrumental Music

Moody

Charlotte Soja—General Music
Cindy Peterson—Instrumental Music

Snow

Hallie Sorensen—General Music
Amy Chrzanowski—Instrumental Music

Spencer

Liza Raboin—General Music
Cindy Peterson—Instrumental Music

Wesley

Jeannine Westbrook - General Music
Steve D’Amato—Instrumental Music

Mark Your Swaim Concert Calendars:

All Elementary String Students

Monday, December 21st
at 7 PM

At Middletown High School

Snow Date

Tuesday, December 22nd

Elizabeth Swaim Strings Program

The Elizabeth Swaim Strings Program is an after school program where students learn to play string instruments. This extracurricular activity opportunity is extended to students in grades 1 through 5. This program is in its seventh year and has nurtured so many student string players that the high school has its first string orchestra.

Pinar Gosterisli, Colleen Weiner, and Danielle Salerno dedicate their afternoons to making this program a success by teaching the after school string classes.

The Swaim String Concert will be Monday, December 21st at 7 PM at the Middletown High School. The snow date is Tuesday, December 22nd.

6th Grade General Music

General Music has finished up the Hip Hop unit with Patrick Hayes and is now getting ready for a keyboarding unit! We have purchased twelve keyboards for the piano lab and hope to add more as the year goes on. Mr. and Mrs. Sinicrope are both pianists and look

forward to teaching the new unit to Keigwin students this year! Who knows, we may discover the next Billy Joel at Keigwin! ☺

6th Grade Instrumental Music

The Keigwin Band and Orchestra have been making steady progress and preparing for the Keigwin Winter Concert, held on December 2nd, at 7:00 PM in the MHS Theatre. Tickets are \$2.00 and will be available at the school and sold at the door.

for lessons and rehearsals.

Students can listen, download and practice along to MP3s of all Band concert music posted on the Keigwin Band Webpage.

This provides students a fun way to practice and improve!

Students are encouraged to practice daily and prepare

6th Grade Choral Music

Chorus’s first performance will be at Middletown High School on December 2 at 7pm. Tickets will be \$2 each and will be available through Mr. and Mrs. Sinicrope starting on November 16. The proceeds of this concert go directly back into the music department and

helps to pay for music, instruments, and field trips. Please note that we usually sell out of tickets, so purchase tickets before the concert night! Mr. Daddario and Ms. Pinar also will have tickets to sell as well!

Mark Your Keigwin

Concert Calendars:

All Band, Choir, and String Students

Wednesday, December 2nd
at 7 PM

at Middletown High School

Snow Date

Tuesday, December 8th

Meet The Keigwin

Music Faculty!

David Daddario—Band

Pinar Gosterisli—Strings

Aaron Sinicrope—General Music and Choir

Ali Sinicrope— General Music and Choir



Woodrow Wilson Chorus

The Woodrow Wilson Middle School 7th and 8th Grade choruses are both performing ensembles that promote students' musical achievement, responsibility, self-respect, and group pride. Students learn how to function as a member of

a musical team; working together to present a polished musical product. Currently, students are working to prepare for the December 9th and 10th Winter Concerts. The choruses display holiday musical selections and brand new concert attire. The 7th and 8th grade ensembles will perform in the WWWMS auditorium at 7PM on the 9th and 10th respectively.

Selected chorus students also have the opportunity to participate in the Select Chorus, which is an audition-only after school ensemble consisting of approximately 40 7th and

8th grade music students. Additionally, about 20 choral students have been selected by Mr. Matthews to participate in the Southern Region Music Festival Chorus auditions, which take place this year on Saturday, November 7th at 10pm at the Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School in Hamden. Students who score high enough in this audition will participate in the Southern Region Music Festival Chorus, which will perform at the Southern Region Music Festival on Friday and Saturday, February 26th and 27th at Killingworth Middle School.



Woodrow Wilson General Music

Students who are not a member of a performing ensemble at WWMS can participate in the 7th and 8th grade Music and Performing Arts class. Students in this class the fundamentals and elements of music, note and rhythm reading, musical careers, an overview of world music, as well as the basics

of guitar and piano. This class meets every other day all year in both 7th and 8th grade. The Music and Performing Arts classes have already studied and revisited music notation. As the first quarter comes to a close, classes will begin studying piano.

Woodrow Wilson Instrumental Music

Students participating in the 7th and 8th grade bands work towards many performance opportunities. Each band consists of mixed classes of students as well as pull-out lessons by instrument. Students work on a variety of repertoire that spans across cultures and difficulties. In addition, students work in method books to improve their technique and playing ability. Currently we are working towards our December 9th and 10th

Holiday Concerts for the 7th and 8th graders respectively.

Select students are given the opportunity to perform in the Jazz Ensemble, and after school group by auditioning. The 25 students who are chosen learn about and perform a variety of songs in different jazz styles. They also learn to improvise and solo.

In addition to learning performance skills, students learn about responsibility,



self-respect, cooperation, and achievement. Students are expected to work together towards a common goal to play together successfully. They are also expected to practice at home regularly.

Some students have been selected to audition for the Southern Regional Middle School Band. Auditions will be held on November 7th at the Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School in Hamden. Students with a high score will participate in the Southern Regional Musical Festival on Friday and Saturday, February 26th and 27th at Killingworth Middle School.

Mark Your

Woodrow Wilson

Concert Calendars:

Wednesday, December 9th
at 7 PM—7th Grade Band and
Choir

Snow Date

Monday, December 14th

Thursday, December 10th
at 7 PM—8th Grade Band,
Strings, and Choir

Snow Date

Tuesday, December 15th

Meet The Woodrow Wilson

Music Faculty!

Steve Matthews—Choir and General
Music

Pinar Gosterisli—Strings

Katherine Beyer— Band and General
Music

MHS Instrumental Classes

The Marching Blue Dragons have almost completed another successful marching season. This year's halftime show included I Want You Back, ABC, and Thriller from the King of Pop's early career. This Micheal Jackson themed show included difficult drill and choreography for over two hundred students. New to marching band this year were the addition of Sunday rehearsals and competitions. Thank you to the band parents who gave their support to make this a very memorable season.



The Symphonic Band is now working towards the holiday concert season. Favorites, such as *Channukah is Here* composed by Calvin Custer and *Imani* by Sean O'Loughlin, will be played. The Wind Ensemble and

Orchestra are not only working on separate concert repertoire, but also a combined piece for winds and strings. Jazz Band practices to perform pieces for the holiday concert while improving improvisational skills.

Students continue to work on fundraisers to support the trip to Florida. Please view the band website for the latest in fundraising activities. Each student should have \$900 in his/her account by the end of December. All band students/parents should receive emails from MHSband@sbcglobal.net to ensure up-to-date information.

MHS Choir and Guitar Classes

All Choirs will be singing at the Tree Lighting ceremony on Friday, November 27 (day after Thanksgiving). All students need to be at the town green by 4:45 p.m. for the 5:00 PM performance. Students that are traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday must have a written excuse given to Mrs. Sinicrope or Mr. Gosselin *before they leave* on Wednesday, November 25.

The Choir Holiday Concert has been changed to Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:30 PM. Tickets will be \$3. This will fulfill the required concert grade for term 2. The snow date will be Thursday, December 17.

The Chamber Choir will be performing in the Annual Rotary Club concert on Saturday, December 12 at 7:00 PM. Select ensembles from Mercy, Xavier, MHS, and Cuginchaug will be performing in the concert here at MHS. Please plan on attending.

Choir classes have the opportunity to travel to NYC on May 5 to see a Broadway show. Students can choose from West Side Story or Jersey Boys. Included in the trip will be coach bus transportation, a workshop with Broadway professionals, lunch and a show. Cost will be \$150 inclusive. Deposits of \$25 will be accepted beginning Monday, November 16.

The Guitar classes are doing very well this year. Students have progressed up to page 17 in the course book. Players practice chords and individual note playing.



Searching for Something Spectacular?

Maestro Edward Cumming invites you to celebrate with Holiday Spectacular! Treat the whole family to sparkling carols, seasonal chestnuts, and spirited choruses—all gloriously performed with the Hartford Symphony! Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, Little Drummer Boy, Sleigh Ride,

selections from the Nutcracker, and more! There will be sing-a-longs and even a visit from Santa! Don't miss the biggest show to ever come to Middletown!

The Hartford Symphony performs at Middletown High School, 200 LaRosa Lane on both Friday, December 18th and

Saturday, December 19th at 8 PM.

For tickets, go to www.middletownschoools.org or see any Middletown High School music student. Advance tickets are \$30.00. If tickets are available at the door, the cost will be \$35.00.

Mark Your

Middletown High School

Concert Calendars:

Monday, December 7th
at 7:30 PM—Choir Concert

Snow Date

Thursday, December 17th

Wednesday, December 16th
at 7:30 PM—Instrumental
Concert

Snow Date

Thursday, December 17th



Meet The Middletown High School

Music Faculty!

Marco Gaylord—Fine Arts Department
Head, Director of Bands

Pinar Gosterisli—Strings

Michael Gosselin—Choir Director,
Guitar

Ali Sinicrope—Assistant Choir
Director, Gospel Choir, Piano

Kimberly Everson—Assistant
Director of Bands

www.middletownschoools.org